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Is the appointment by King ALEXANDER of VENIZELAS as the head of a new Cabinet. The young King is said to have expressed a great admiration of the former Premier and a strong belief in his sincerity and patriotism. Whichever of the two courses is adopted, there is reason to believe that ALEXANDER will express the expression of the only strong man that the critical times have developed as the will and desires of the Greek nation.

The affairs of the sorely tried little kingdom are now in fair way of adjustment, and its name, which had become so thoroughly discredited through CONSTANTINE's treachery to its natural allies and friends, may yet be restored and Greece assume its proper place in the present war.

Oil and Conservation.

The Standard Oil Company may not be the most unbiassed critic of the Government's management of its petroleum lands. Nevertheless, it suggests that the existing stringency in the oil supply requires some reconsideration of the policy of holding great quantities of oil bearing land out of use. It expresses the common sense view of the situation.

Only recently Mr. F. S. PEABODY, chairman of the Coal Committee of the Council of National Defence, reported that unless new oil wells were speedily opened we should fall short of our needs for domestic use and the supply of our allies by nearly 50,000,000 barrels in the coming year. Standard Oil statisticians estimate that California, which produces 265,000 barrels of crude oil a day, needs for her own use 300,000 barrels daily. The deficit of 35,000 barrels daily has been made up from past surplus, with the result that accumulated stocks of 57,000,000 barrels on January 1, 1916, have been reduced to 40,000,000 in May, 1917.

The Government holds out of use some 3,000,000 to 4,000,000 acres of oil land. How rich in oil this territory may be is unknown, because no adequate survey of all of it has ever been made. One of the sections reserved for the navy has been estimated to contain 100,000,000 barrels. But the Government neither explores nor permits others to explore the lands which it withholds from use.

Secretary DANIELS strenuously, and wisely, opposes any inroads upon the oil bearing lands reserved for the use of our navy. Though its needs today are inconsiderable in comparison with those of certain quasi-public enterprises—the navy uses about 14,000 barrels a day, the Southern Pacific Railway 40,000 barrels—this need will continually rise, for all of the new ships are being equipped with oil burning furnaces. But it seems probable that the navy's needs may be safeguarded and still enough of the Government oil lands be leased to operators to meet the impending scarcity of the product.

It is needless to expatiate upon the need for oil and its products in war. Every weapon from the submarine sixty feet beneath the surface of the sea to the airplane 10,000 feet above it needs oil. The cannon are drawn away in oil driven ambulances. Whether in the service of war or of peace it has become the indispensable commodity, and it will be folly for the Government to keep its supplies closed on the plea of conservation for future needs which can never be more grave than those confronting us now.

The Russian Situation Hopeful.

Some American observers have been pessimistic about the behavior in the reconstruction period following the collapse of the Imperial dynasty, which is not extraordinary, because the news that usually comes out of Russia is of a sensational character indicating that the extremists are in the saddle. A mutiny on a ship is magnified into the revolt of a great naval force. Desertions from the army are made to appear like a migration of peasant soldiers to assert their rights to the soil. Infractions of discipline are interpreted as demoralization in the rank and file. Social agitation for a separate peace is represented as the desire of the Russian people that the war stop. The country seems to be drifting into anarchy until contradiction comes from some cool headed observer.

A little investigation discloses that local government in Russia is nothing new. The movement that culminated in the dethronement of the czar was a sure sign of gradual development. The Zemstva were established by ALEXANDER II. so long ago as 1865. The peasants were represented as well as the landowners. It was a system of local government, first in districts and then in provinces, qualified and restrained by bureaucratic influence. Five years later town councils, not as representative as they might have been, were established. Then came congresses of the Zemstva and town councils called by these bodies without asking the consent of the Government, and at last the Duma, a body of representatives of the people, was established. The Duma, a body of representatives of the people, was established. The Duma, a body of representatives of the people, was established.

The entire Zemstva Ministry has resigned and many of the persons who have been active in support of CONSTANTINE's ruinous course regarding Greece have followed the late King into retirement. Two courses are open for the restoration of VENIZELAS to the Premiership. The proclamation which dissolved the Chamber of Deputies in 1915 may be annulled. This, it is held, will automatically return VENIZELAS to power and overcome the difficulties of a new election in the present unsettled condition of the country. The other course

at a great representative assembly in Moscow, makes this statement:

"We have seen nothing since we came to Russia that gives cause for criticism. We marvel at the self-control, the kindness of spirit and the sound common sense that the Russians display. We feel that the work you are doing in the committee is on the right path toward an actual, permanent democracy."

This was the estimate of a trained observer and the language of sincerity. The danger in Russia is not the unbridled license of a people suddenly become free; it is the power that can be developed by German influences and reactionary intrigue. Professor BERNARD PARES has said that the real reactionists are not five per cent. of the population, and it must always be remembered that the Germans have an odious name in Russia. At heart the people are sound and their patriotism is genuine. Their feet are set to the right path, and they are brave, enduring and loyal. If they understand the issues of the war and their responsibility to the allies of Russia—and they are being enlightened by delegations from England and from France as well as from the United States—they will stick and fight it out. There is no good reason why Americans should be fearful that the Russian people will be so base as to abandon their allies.

The Government Might Economize in the Census Bureau.

The Census Bureau has acknowledged frankly that its estimate of male inhabitants between 21 and 30 prepared last month for the guidance of the army authorities was inaccurate and misleading. The bureau put the number of men liable to registration at 10,079,000. Practically complete returns show that 9,685,382 men registered. Add to this the 600,000 men in the army, navy, National Guard, Marine Corps and other organizations whose members were exempt from registration, and the bureau figures are shown to be 200,000 or so under the actual number. This discrepancy is serious, but the worthlessness of the bureau's estimate is shown even more convincingly when the details of its tabulation are examined. Director ROGERS says:

"The most pronounced discrepancies appear for the State of Washington, in which the registration amounted to 49.8 per cent. of the estimate; Oregon, in which it was 57.9 per cent.; North Dakota, 73 per cent.; Wyoming, about 65 per cent.; Nevada, 71.6 per cent., and South Dakota, 72.1 per cent."

"In no other State was the registration less than 75 per cent. of the estimate."

"On the other hand fourteen States—Arizona, Connecticut, Delaware, Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Massachusetts, Michigan, Montana, New Hampshire, New Jersey, North Carolina, Ohio and Wisconsin—exceeded their estimates, the greatest percentages of excess being those for Michigan, 29.4; Connecticut, 29.3; Montana, 29.4, and Ohio, 14.4."

An overestimate of 25 per cent. Mr. ROGERS seems to regard as unworthy of consideration, but the list he has compiled gives twenty out of the forty-eight States in which his statisticians were hopelessly wrong in their conclusions. They had nothing to work on. The Director explains:

"The Census Bureau had few reliable data as to the abnormal shifting of population which have taken place in recent years, particularly since the outbreak of the war gave so great an impetus to the manufacture of munitions and other commodities needed by the belligerents."

THE SUN has frequently pointed out the untrustworthiness of the Census Bureau computations of population. They cost a great deal of money, and do no good. Yet they are constantly referred to as if they possessed real importance. While the country is being urged by the Government to economize the Government might set a good example by economizing in the Census Bureau; and the men released from futile occupation under its direction might be put to digging potatoes, in doing which they would be of real value to the community.

Attacking German Naval Bases.

When WINSTON SPENCER CHURCHILL, former First Lord of the Admiralty, urges aggressive action by the fleets of Great Britain, France and the United States against the German naval bases he utters the thought of the man in the street, who knows nothing about the mine fields that protect the approaches to those bases. It must have occurred to Sir JOHN JELlicoe, the First Sea Lord, and his associates in the Admiralty, perhaps so long ago as the time when Mr. CHURCHILL was seeking to evade responsibility for the Dardanelles naval fiasco, that the sure way of solving the submarine problem would be to destroy the German naval bases and the fleet at Kiel, and the explanation of inaction must be that the fighting British Admirals, well informed by their Intelligence Department, concluded that an attack in force on those bases would result only in the blowing up and sinking of the ships of the Allies engaged.

If the Admiralty is not willing to risk its dreadnoughts against a resourceful enemy well prepared for a grand assault, let the surplus of old but valuable vessels be used, suggests Mr. CHURCHILL. This is to overlook the fact that if the dreadnoughts could get through the mine field their guns would be out-ranged by the German ordnance and every ship would be sunk unless the action were abandoned and safely sought in flight. If there is a grand assault it must be made with floating forts carrying guns of the large

est calibre. Half measures would be as futile as was the naval bombardment of the Turkish works in the Dardanelles.

Was it not Mr. CHURCHILL who, in discussing the battle of Jutland with disapproval of the risk taken by Admiral BEATTY, contended that "without a battle we had all that the most victorious of battles could give us" and that "no obligation of war obliged us to go further"? Mr. CHURCHILL would now plead, no doubt, that the partial success of the submarine campaign has changed the strategic situation and that something must be done to win back the British advantage at sea. The Admiralty is busy with the same thought. That may be inferred from Lord LYTTON's positive declaration, when the Admiralty was under fire in Parliament, that the War Staff had never abandoned the policy that it was "our main and first business to seek out and destroy the enemy fleet." When strategists and fighters like JELlicoe and BEATTY are working in cooperation and there is no grand assault there must be a reason. Certainly the Right Hon. WINSTON CHURCHILL is not competent to advise and direct them. Only as a rhetorician is he their superior.

America Will Find the Words.

No one can read the history of American arms and doubt that when the occasion arises there will be slogans and battle cries aplenty for the inspiration of American troops at the front and American war workers at home.

When ETHAN ALLEN called for the surrender of Ticonderoga "in the name of the great JEHU and the Continental Congress," he spoke promptly. When the Rev. JAMES CALDWELL of Elizabeth tore up his hymn books for gun wadding, crying, "Give them Watts, boys; give them Watts!" his words were not the result of rhetorical polishing in the privacy of his study. PAUL JONES, when he shouted from the riddled Bon Homme Richard, "I have not yet begun to fight," spoke wholly without preparation save the preparation of hot shot and grapping irons, and rugged old STARK at the battle of Bennington did not stop to consult a manuscript when he mounted a rail fence and shouted, "There are the redcoats; by night they're ours or MOLLY STARK'S widow."

From the Lexington Minute Man's "If they want war, let it begin here," down to DEWEY's "You may fire when you're ready, GARDNEY," history is full of evidence that America's soldier and sailor sons can be trusted to find the slogan. They waste neither shots nor words when the occasion comes.

Give them in this war a rallying cry if you will, but their battle cries, is heretofore, will be extemporaneous.

Among the things not in the Creel "Red, White and Blue Book" is that Lusitania settlement announced in the Democratic campaign textbook of 1914.

It is impossible to view without alarm the fact that the dry amendment to the food bill, passed by the House Saturday, will stop the manufacture of grape juice, a beverage whose alcoholic content is but small, to be sure, about equal to that of beer, according to respectable authority. However, all may not yet be lost; the amendment says that food material may not be used in the production of alcohol "except for governmental and some other purposes. To assuage the thirst of a certain person prominent in the Navy Department may be construed by a sympathetic Attorney-General as a "governmental purpose."

Captain BRANDENBURG, the German flight commander who was in charge of the German aircraft which raided London on June 13, killing several scores of men, women and children, has been rewarded with the decoration Pour le Merite for his exploit.—Despatch from Amsterdam.

And yet it is proposed to punish Cocchi!

In one aspect the Fourth of July this year will gratify the Committee on Public Information, which desires a revival of the old fashioned form of celebration. There will be numerous train bands in evidence.

The Prussians now contend that the Hoffman-Grimm attempt to lure Russia into a separate peace with the Central Empires was a deep laid Enigma plot. We shall soon be told that the Zimmermann scheme for annexing Texas, New Mexico, Arizona and California to Mexico had its origin in the mind of some Frenchman.

In infantry parlance Colonel Roosevelt has begun to deploy his squad.

No.

To the Editor of THE SUN—Sir: Do Great Britain, France and the other allied countries of Europe allow daily newspapers to be circulated printed in the German language? A. V. JONES. NORWALK, CONN., June 25.

The Monster.

The skeleton of the prehistoric monster has been located. It will be a decided novelty in natural history research. The skeleton was found in the very front of the world war.—THE SUN.

Sleep on. O bones of mystic day! Sleep on, O bones of mystic day! Sleep on, O bones of mystic day! Believe us, it is best.

No time is this to come to light; Turn over; doze once more. With all your self-control, at tight; No time for you to come to light; Dig in and shut the door.

What matters it, a thousand years. Or more or less, to you? Sleep on, O bones of mystic day; What matters it, a thousand years? 'Tis but a wink or two.

Well, have your way, if come you must; Come on, then, get it over. Get up and look; shake off the dust; Yes, have your way, if come you must. You restless stone age rover.

The Aeroplane a Short Cut to the Winning of the War

Every Hundred Million Dollars We Put Into Aeroplanes, and Put in Quickly, Will Save Three Hundred Thousand Americans in Killed and Wounded.

ONE BILLION DOLLARS SO SPENT WILL GO FURTHER IN WINNING THE WAR THAN TWENTY BILLION DOLLARS SPENT IN TRENCH FIGHTING.

If officer-aviators of the English and French air squadrons sent here by their respective governments in the interest of our aviation development know whereof they speak, and if our own men on whom the President has placed the responsibility of investigation and the development of our aeroplane service are sure of their facts when they say, as the English and French officer-aviators say, that every additional aeroplane contributed now to the fighting forces on the Western front is worth a thousand men in line, a thousand men in the trenches—if all this is so, there was never anything clearer in all the world than that we should throw ourselves with all our might and all the necessary resources of the nation into the construction of a fleet of aeroplanes big enough to destroy the enemy aircraft.

The menace of the submarine, serious as it is to the allied cause, is in no sense comparable to the menace of the aeroplane. The stealthy work of the submarine is, in the main, that of sinking ships. It has little scope beyond this. The aeroplane, on the other hand, is multifarious in its uses. It is the eyes and the scout of the army, the photographer of enemy lines, the reporter, the chronicler of enemy doings, the messenger of commanders, the combatant of the air, and the dread of soldiers and civilians alike when on bombing bent.

Indeed, modern warfare has come to be so dependent upon the aeroplane that battling without it is like navigating in a fogbank. It is the right hand of the strategy board and the eyes of the general in command. But the greatest power of the aeroplane is in its numerical strength. We have just seen what a tiny fleet of twenty aeroplanes could do to London, did do to London, with a death and wounded list of more than five hundred.

If twenty aeroplanes could accomplish this shocking result, what would happen to a city if it were bombed by a fleet of twenty thousand aeroplanes? The carnage from such a raid, the destruction of property and human life, paralyzes fancy. And yet this is easily possible and may well happen if the aeroplane menace of the Germans is not checked, and checked sharply.

Unchecked by the Allies, the success of the London aeroplane raid will lead to immensely bolder undertakings of the same character on the part of the Germans. The aeroplane has achieved for them where the Zeppelin failed, and the aeroplane, because of its small cost and the rapidity with which it can be constructed, can and will soon be so multiplied that it will become a far greater menace to London and a far greater menace to England than the submarine, with its threat of bringing England to her knees by starvation.

What is true of London and England as concerns this menace is true of Paris and France. But England and France haven't the power to eliminate the enemy aircraft, as their combined output of aeroplanes is scarcely a match for the output of Germany alone. The work of eliminating German aircraft falls to America, as it has fallen to America to eliminate the submarine, and in the elimination of these two we shall have delivered a decisive blow to the enemy.

Without submarines, or with the efficiency of submarines neutralized, and with the great armies of the Allies enormously strengthened from American forces, Germany wouldn't have a chance to win this war, unless by the introduction of some new invention or development as yet unknown.

Our work with the submarine is cut out for us; that is a generally accepted fact, and in the end we shall give a good account of ourselves with respect to this responsibility. We must eliminate it or render it impractical.

This we must do to keep England on the fighting line with us.

This discussion hasn't to do with the submarine, however, but with the aeroplane, to a recognition of whose powers we have just awakened. Only three years ago the aeroplane was a toy, and apparently had no practical use. Looking upon it as such, a mere bird of the air, it is no wonder that the world has not kept pace with its development or followed its work in this war with full realization of its achievement and of the yet greater possibilities ahead of it—overwhelmingly great possibilities ahead of it when it shall have come to multiply its numbers into the hundreds of thousands.

We know a good deal about the machinery of battle, about armies, big guns, trench warfare, gas projectiles and bomb throwing. These are, in a way, tangible things, and have none of the seeming of the familiar grim instruments of war, of human destruction, and yet war must go on as we have come to know it, with big armies, trench fighting, enormous artillery service, and all that.

The aeroplane is an auxiliary to this great organization of fighting power, a branch of service, and a vitally important branch. Neither is now complete without the other. The aeroplane service might well, it seems to me, be so expanded as to include two distinct branches, one to do the work the aeroplane is now doing, but to do it on a greatly enlarged scale, the other branch, a branch of enormous numerical strength, to be assigned exclusively to bombing raids on the enemy forces, enemy lines of transportation, enemy submarine bases, the enemy navy, and even to reprisals if the enemy forces this measure of retaliation.

A squadron of twenty thousand aeroplanes in this branch alone, the ranks always to be kept full, would wreak such havoc on the enemy, with the enemy air service crippled or eliminated, that it should prove a short cut to the ending of the war. No nation, not even the great German nation, with its masterful resources and its genius for war, could stand against a combination of this kind.